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[Dates.	PRICES AT WHICH SOLD BY THE TRADE TARIFF.									
	In. In. 60 by 48.		In. In. 96 by 60.		In. In. 120 by 72.		In. In. 144 by 75.		In. In. 144 by 76*.	
1760 Vaux- hall.	None made in England larger than 60 by 42; all above that size were imported from abroad.									
1819	about 30s. per ft.		about 60s. per ft.		about 160s. per ft.		No Price— none made so large. s. d. 50 0		..	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.			s.	d.
1827	19	1	26	2	39	4	Very difficult to manufacture so large. 27 4 27 4		..	..
1836	14	0	20	0	24	5	27 4 27 4		27	7
1845	14	0	20	0	24	5	and now made <i>much larger</i> with perfect facility. 27 7		27	7
1847 Duty Free.	12	10	19	5	24	5			35	6

Dates	Rate of Excise Duty.	Quality made.	Supply.	Average Selling Price per Foot.	Number of Feet Sold per Week. English.	Estimated Number of Hands Directly and Indirectly Employed.	Estimated Amount of Capital Employed.
1760 Vaux- hall.	..	Indifferent.	..	..	..	..	..
1819	Per cwt. 98s.	Indifferent.	No complaint on that head.	s. s. 20 to 25	about 3,000	..	..
1827	60	Considerably Improved.	Inadequate to Demand.	10 to 12	about 5,000	..	..
1836	60	Improved.	Inadequate.	8 to 9	about 7,000	about 2,500	about £250,000
1845	63	Still Improving.	Still Inadequate.	about 6s.	about 23,000	about 6,000	..
1847 Duty Free.	Free.	Better than ever.	More Inadequate than ever.	4 to 5	about 12,000	about 70,000	about £1,000,000

* Now made with facility 170 in. by 90 in. and upwards.

The largest plate ever *silvered* in Great Britain, or perhaps in the world, is at Mr. Donne's, Leadenhall Street, near Cornhill, Glass Dealer, the dimensions are from 160 to 170 in. high by 94 in. wide; the plates in the windows are 160 in. high by 72 in. wide each.

Notwithstanding the disturbed state of Europe, and consequent depression in trade, the sales by one leading Company in the first six months of this year *have exceeded those of any previous half-year.*

The excise duty on plate glass was, in direct charge, nearly 40 per cent. of the entire cost, whilst, indirectly, the restrictions inseparable from the excise laws increased the amount to considerably more.

The reduction to the public will be seen in the above scale, which exhibits a plate 144 in. by 76 in., *before the duty was remitted*, at 27s. 7d. per foot, a price that then yielded a very large profit, whereas, strange as it may appear, the same plate, *entirely free from duty*, was advanced to 35s. 6d. per foot, being an *increase* of 28 per cent.

In remitting the glass duties, it should be observed, that Sir Robert Peel very wisely removed also the duties on all the raw materials used in the manufacture thereof, thereby setting the trade perfectly free.

The importation of plate glass into France was, until 1847, *prohibited*. It is now admitted at an *ad valorem* duty, varying from 15 to 19 per cent. (See "Times," April 14th, 1847.) The British duty on the importation of foreign plate glass may be estimated at about *half that amount*, which sufficiently indicates the relative positions of the two countries. At this low rate of duty, and the liberal prices which have ruled on this side, the importations (almost exclusively from a French and a Belgian house) have been confined chiefly to plates of large dimensions, *which pay the highest rate of profit*; and the supply of these has not been to anything like the extent that was anticipated from the present tempting scale of prices; whilst in plates of smaller dimensions, it is admitted that the foreigner cannot afford to send them over at all at the English price.

The continental manufacture of this article is chiefly carried on in France, Belgium, Prussia, Russia, Bohemia, Bavaria, &c. Those of France and Belgium rank next the best English make, both in *colour* and *brilliancy*, but the productions of Prussia are much inferior in both these points, as is also the Russian, which is of a very dark colour, and of a more imperfect character generally than any of the others.

The Bohemian and Bavarian is chiefly *blown* glass, which, from the nature of the process it undergoes, cannot be rendered so perfect as that which is *cast*. It is also *limited in size and thin*, and is, therefore, unsuited to the general purposes for which plate glass is used in this country and elsewhere.

Notwithstanding this, however, large quantities are annually shipped from the vicinity of Bamberg and Nuremberg to the United States of America, where it finds a ready sale.

For some years the English plate glass has been considered the best manufacture of the kind in Europe, both in *colour* and *brilliancy*, and it can be rendered *much superior in finish* to any now made. Although the knowledge of this interesting branch of manufacture (to which the nobles of France were formerly educated without detracting from their nobility) was borrowed from that country some seventy or eighty years since, such is the manufacturing genius of Great Britain, as displayed in the great improvements effected in this country during the last twenty-five years—in machinery and otherwise—that the *largest* and *finest* plates are now produced in England with *greater facility*, and at a *less cost*, than in any other part of the world; and the entire remission of the excise duty, which is no longer permitted to fetter native industry with obstructive restrictions, will now enable the British manufacturer successfully to compete with the foreigner, in any market.

Nor is it unworthy of remark, as an authenticated fact, that whilst certain eminent foreigners have derived only 9 per cent. from this manufacture, English makers have realized 20 per cent., which, by judicious management, may be still further augmented.

No plate glass is made in all the continent of India and China, nor the West Indies; neither does any manufacture of the kind exist in all North and South America, Australia, Turkey, &c., &c., the whole of whose supplies are obtained from the manufacturing districts of Europe.

British skill having now raised this manufacture to such a point of excellence, there is no longer a doubt that British enterprize could and would ere this have commanded all these and many other markets, were it not that the unprecedentedly large demand for home consumption alone, the inadequate supply, and the consequent high prices, have all combined for a time to check the export trade to these important portions of the globe. And these causes alone have prevented that full development of Sir Robert Peel's measure, which was so truly pointed out in his speech in Parliament, on the 14th of February, 1845.

Much has been said, both in and out of Parliament, of the ruin which is to ensue to British interests from the remission of the glass duties. Now, how stand the facts? In 1845, when the excise duty was remitted, the English makers reduced the price of small plates (which foreigners could not afford to send here at all) to a *fair and equitable* scale, but the large plates (which, paradoxical as it may appear, *cost less per foot than the small ones*.) were kept up at the *unreasonable* rates quoted above.

Our neighbours the French and Belgians, attracted and encouraged by the simplicity which thus invited them here, under cover of our excessive prices, accordingly brought over and sold their larger fabrics at enormous profits, whilst our manufacturers, realising still greater advantages, and sustained by an immense demand, refused to modify this extraordinary tariff, although its manifest injustice to the public, and direct tendency to injure the very interest it was meant to promote, have been almost universally condemned as the climax of absurdity. But let us see what this competition has really amounted to, and how it has operated.

By the Official Return, No. 305, dated May 5, 1848, printed by order of the House of Commons, it appears that the total amount of plate glass entered for consumption in England was, in 1847, 99,841 feet, which is at the rate of 1,920 feet per week, the total English make being at the same time 70,000 feet per week, so that the proportion is $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet of foreign for every 100 feet English.

It has been alleged that this importation of foreign glass effects a displacement of British labour. Now in this case its operation has been just the reverse, for this wholesome competition, small though it be, has caused such a relaxation in price, that instead of confining this trade within the circumscribed limits of monopoly, it has had the effect of so vastly increasing the consumption as to afford employment to thousands of hands who, otherwise, might have remained in a state of inactivity, while one of the two agencies established here exclusively for the sale of foreign plate glass has been compelled to relinquish the sale, simply from inability to withstand British competition.

Now, how stand the exports? Comparing the Parliamentary Return already referred to with that numbered 361, dated 7th May, 1847, it will be found that our exports of 1847 exceeded those of 1846—

In Flint Glass by	20 per cent.
In Common Window Glass by	42 „
In Bottles by.....	5 „
In Looking Glasses by.....	49 „
In Plate Glass by „.....	110 „

Looking at the unexampled commercial difficulties of 1847, this increase is almost incredible, yet such is the fact.

Again, in 1846 what was the quantity of plate glass exported to all the United States of America? *Not a single foot*,—whilst in 1847, when prices had been somewhat mitigated, the exports to the *United States alone* nearly equalled the total amount exported in 1846 to *all the world*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Classification of Depositors in Savings' Banks.

Classification of 11,249 Accounts, remaining open in the Books of the Union Savings' Banks, Devonport, 20th November, 1847.

Number of Accounts.	Class.	Amount belonging to each Class.		
		£	s.	d.
478	Tradesmen and small Shopkeepers	23,739	10	6
122	Small Farmers	6,426	2	8
1,921	Journeymen Tradesmen, Mechanics, &c.....	77,308	1	1
642	Agricultural Labourers.....	23,573	0	6
482	Labourers of other descriptions	19,970	15	4
186	Male Domestic Servants	8,485	2	2
1,894	Female ditto	47,588	3	5
1,008	Seafaring Persons, Royal Navy, Royal Marines, } Soldiers, &c.....	34,817	5	8
370	Teachers, Clerks, Shopmen, &c.	15,206	6	6
580	Females engaged in Trade	17,286	8	4
168	Apprentices	1,986	12	0
1,915	Children	33,215	1	2
338	Officers of the Royal Navy, and other Public Officers	18,058	5	4
942	Persons of small Income, unconnected with } Business, Widows, &c.	47,102	3	8
11,046	Accounts of Individual Depositors, to whom } belong the Sum of	374,762	18	4
94	Charitable Institutions	3,816	2	9
109	Friendly Societies	14,015	5	4
11,249	Total number of Accounts open, amounting to	392,594	6	5

Average Amount of Individual Depositors' Accounts, 33*l.* 8*s.* 6½*d.*

Coal Trade of Great Britain.

THERE are upwards of 3,000 coal mines in Great Britain, which employ nearly 250,000 men, women, and boys, under ground and above, termed hewers, putters, trappers, overlookers, bankmen, &c., &c. The capital invested in working-stock, tramways, staiths, and harbours, altogether exceeds 30,000,000*l.* in value! and the "get of coal," as it is technically termed, amounts to 34,000,000 tons annually; the estimated value of which, at the "Pit's Mouth," is 10,000,000*l.* Of this enormous quantity of coal, one-third is raised in the Northumberland and Durham Districts, from whence the chief exports of the kingdom are made by the Rivers Tyne, Wear, and Tees, both foreign and coastways. The chief points of home consumption are in the iron works of Staffordshire, South Wales, and the West of Scotland; which, together with the lesser works of North Wales, Shropshire, Yorkshire, and Derbyshire, consume nearly one-third of the whole. The residue is consumed in smaller manufactures generally, such as those of cotton and woollen, the salt works, &c., and by the populations of large towns for domestic purposes.—"Report on Coal Traffic," by Braithwaite Poole, Esq., F.S.S.